

May 22, 2012



Do you know what Medicaid and Basic Health covers for the Pertussis Vaccine?

Recently you have seen the state-wide news from the Department of Health that Washington is experiencing a pertussis epidemic. Clients and prescribers alike will be asking what the Health Care Authority pays for. Please see below for information about vaccines, the Child Vaccine Program, and vaccines covered by Medicare and Basic Health.

General Vaccine Information:

Ages birth to seven: [DTaP or DT Vaccine](#)

Kids should be immunized in the first 18 months of life with a four-shot series of the combination vaccine, DTaP. This vaccine includes diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis. Kids who get all four doses before their fourth birthday should get a fifth dose before starting kindergarten or elementary school. The fifth dose isn't necessary if the fourth dose was given on or after the fourth birthday. This combination vaccine is not given to people over age seven. DT vaccine is available for kids under seven who can't tolerate the pertussis (whooping cough) component.

Ages 7-10: [Tdap Vaccine](#)

Kids aged 7-10 years who aren't fully immunized against pertussis (such as, those who didn't complete a series of pertussis-containing vaccine before their seventh birthday) should get a one-time dose of Tdap vaccine.

Ages 10 and up: [Tdap or Td Vaccine](#)

One dose of Tdap vaccine is recommended for adolescents aged 11 or 12 years in place of one Td booster. Kids at least 11 years old are required to show proof of Tdap vaccination. One dose of Tdap vaccine is also recommended for older adolescents aged 13-18 years and adults aged 19 through 64 years.

Child Vaccine Program (CVP):

DOH covers the following pertussis vaccinations under the CVP and pays for the vaccine itself for children (0-18):

L/CVP	90715	Tdap vaccine >7 im
L/CVP	90696	Dtap-ipv vacc 4-6 yr im
L/CVP	90698	Dtap-hib-ipv vaccine im
L/CVP	90700	Dtap vaccine < 7 yrs im
L/CVP	90723	Dtap-hep b-ipv vaccine im

Legend	
CVP	Vaccine Free from DOH Child Vaccine Program
L	The use of this procedure code may have certain restrictions i.e.; ages, authorization requirements, diagnosis, facilities. Please see the program specific publications for details prior to providing this service.

Medicaid:

The following vaccines are available to adults (19 and older) without prior authorization:

	90720	<u>Dtp/hib</u> vaccine <u>in</u>
	90701	<u>Dtp</u> vaccine <u>in</u>
L/CVP	90715	<u>Tdap</u> vaccine <u>>7 in</u>

Basic Health:

Pertussis is a covered preventive vaccination. Basic Health benefits are contracted through managed care. Clients should contact their health plan directly for information about vaccine coverage.

Medicare:

Medicare Part B covers only **3** vaccines on a preventive basis, but Medicare Part D (administered by private insurance companies) covers all commercially available vaccines.

What Medicare Part B covers:

Influenza Immunizations, Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccinations, and Hepatitis B Vaccinations:

The following are covered under Part B Medicare only if directly related to treatment of an injury or direct exposure. Otherwise, these are covered under Part D, subject to formulary requirements:

- Anti-rabies
- Anti-venin
- Botulin antitoxin
- Diphtheria
- Immune globulin
- Tetanus antitoxin or booster vaccine
- Tetanus and diphtheria for people incompletely immunized

***If a client has Part B coverage only, pertussis is not included.**

Part D Vaccine Coverage:

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Except for **vaccines covered under Part B**, Medicare drug plans must cover all commercially-available vaccines (such as the pertussis vaccine) when medically necessary to prevent illness.

For pricing information **contact the plan** for its current formulary.

For detail concerning Part D coverage of vaccines and administration of vaccine:

http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/Pub100_18.pdf

What Medicaid Covers:

Medicaid and CHIP cover influenza vaccine for children who are beneficiaries, as well as covering all other recommended vaccines.

Medicare beneficiaries with questions should contact (800) 247-4422 regarding part B vaccines, and should call their prescription drug plan with questions concerning all other vaccines.

Medical professionals should contact their Medicare contractor for Part B vaccine questions and contact the individual's Part D plan for Part D vaccine information.

Questions

Please direct further inquiries to your supervisor.